

CLASSIFICATION ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~COUNTRY USSR REPORTTOPIC Tractor Parts Factory in Saratov

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 21 January 1955

REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. The Saratov (51°34'N/46°02'E) "Serp i Molot" (Sickle and Hammer) factory manufacturing tractor parts was located in the center of the town on the southern side of Astrakhanskaya street, some 2 km east of the Saratov-2 shunting station, and at about 2 km from the Volga River. The factory area was bounded at all its four sides by streets, the factory fence was some 10 meters away from these streets. A streetcar line ran along Astrakhanskaya street along the factory. A green plot was located between Astrakhanskaya street and the factory compound, and a bazaar was located at the northern corner of the plant area. On the opposite side of the street were the Molotov shoe factory, a mattress factory, and the secretariat of the Communist party. A standard-gauge railroad line connected the factory and the Saratov-2 shunting station. The plant had a Diesel switcher and a narrow-gauge rail net operated by lorries in and around the most important workshops.
2. Most of the workshops buildings were erected prior to World War II and had not suffered any war damages. In 1941 ~~am~~ 1942, some departments of the "Serp i Molot" plant had been transferred from Kharkov (50°00'N/36°15'E) to Saratov. Ammunition was manufactured there during the war. After the end of the war, production work was switched over to the manufacture of tractor parts. Between November 1947 and 1949, a new workshop was erected which started the production of sowing machines in early 1950. In 1949, three to five small new buildings were erected. Space for expansion of the plant was available at the northeastern and the southeastern portion of the plant area. The machinery available at the plant was mostly of considerable age but was continuously replaced and increased by reparations material from the GDR. By the end of January 1950, the PW camp located within the compound<sup>2</sup> was disbanded and the dwellings were taken over by Soviet civilian workers.
3. The fenced-in factory area covered some 600,000 square meters. The workshops were steel skeleton structures with brick walls. Several wooden structures were also located there. The main workshop included the following departments:

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